



Colorado Search and Rescue Fund Bulletin

Colorado Department
of Local Affairs

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Weather Forecasts for Search and Rescue Missions

Did you know that on-the-spot weather forecasts are now available for Search and Rescue groups? Joe Ramey, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service (NWS) out of Grand Junction e-mailed our office recently and wanted search and rescue operational folks to be aware that a new service is now available. NWS has forecasters on duty 24/7 that will provide you with a detailed Spot forecast anytime you are going into the field, to include weather/precip/snow amts/temps/wind, and any other weather parameters that will assist you.



A map of all National Weather Service offices and their areas of responsibility is available at:
<http://www.weather.gov/organization.php#maps>

You can access the service by calling the following **UNLISTED** numbers (please do not give these out to the general public).

Boulder: 303-494-4454

Pueblo: 719-948-4848

G.J.: 970-256-9463

You can also go to their homepage and request a Spot forecast: <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/gjt/> then in the left blue column click on 'Fire Weather' then half way down the page click on 'Spot Weather Requests and Forecasts' (or here is a link to go directly there <http://spot.nws.noaa.gov/cgi-bin/spot/spotmon?site=gjt>) then click 'Submit a new Spot Request.'

Then fill out all the parameters in red especially the lat/long and elevation (s) so they can give as precise a forecast as possible. Then, towards the bottom of the page, choose the forecast parameters you want for today, tonight, tomorrow. Add any additional info or requests in the remarks section. Finally hit 'Submit Request.'

A forecaster will immediately begin to put a forecast together for you and will have it back to you within an hour but usually within 30 minutes.

If you would like a little more information, you can request that a forecaster come and speak to your group by calling the **UNLISTED** numbers listed above.

Mesa County has used this service and speaks highly of it. On one mission the NWS projected a break in the severe weather that gave SAR a 45 minute window of opportunity to effect their rescue. The window opened, they came in, made the rescue, and got out before it closed in on them.



NEWS ALERT! NEWS ALERT! NEWS ALERT! NEWS ALERT!

The Colorado Outdoor Recreation Search and Rescue (CORSAR) card can now be purchased on-line! The card can now be purchased using a credit card simply by going to our website (www.state.co.us/searchandrescue), choosing "purchase a CORSAR card" and choosing the "purchase on-line" option.

Remember, all the money raised from selling the card on-line is deposited directly into the Search and Rescue Fund.



Colorado Department of Local Affairs

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Search and Rescue Fund

2005 Annual Report

Every year the Colorado Search and Rescue Fund issues an annual report. The 2005 annual report will be available soon on our website (www.state.co.us/searchandrescue). Of interest to those of you involved in search and rescue, are the type of missions conducted, and the number of missions conducted throughout the state. 71% of the missions conducted are for non-sportsmen and 29% are for sportsman. However, CORSAR card sales now account for 17% of fund revenue!

In 2005 the Search and Rescue Fund reimbursed county sheriff's **\$84,864.98** in mission costs. Those missions consisted of a variety of activities, but it's interesting to note that 32% of those funds were expended on hunters, 32% on hikers, 21% on skiers and 8% on 4-wheelers.



End-of-Year Awards

At the end of the state fiscal year, awards for training and equipment are provided for search and rescue teams throughout the state. The following awards were approved the end of June, 2005 and mailed in July.

Training and Equipment Requests

End-of-year award requests included rope rescue equipment, avalanche school, radios, a wide variety of search and rescue training, helmets, binoculars, avalanche beacons, laptop computers and map software, snow and ice rescue equipment, ATVs, snowmobiles, trailers, communication center equipment, operational field gear, pagers, as well as many other items needed to insure the search and rescue teams are well supplied and trained.

When reviewing the applications, staff found that some counties did not complete the applications or provide adequate detail when requesting items. Next year, when you're filling out the end-of-year award application, please take the time to give us details about your county and search and rescue activities, as well as specifics about equipment and training. Just saying "we want high angle rescue equipment" won't cut it! We'll need itemized lists of the supplies you are hoping to purchase. We appreciate your cooperation.

Awards by County

Alamosa	\$1,800
Arapahoe	2,740
Archuleta	3,550
Boulder	20,862
Chaffee	4,000
Clear Creek	17,850
Crowley	2,000
Custer	2,500
Delta	4,000
Dolores	1,000
Douglas	10,830
Eagle	6,442
El Paso	10,300
Fremont	4,000
Garfield	8,000
Gilpin	3,924
Grand	5,736
Gunnison	8,150
Huerfano	4,500
La Plata	9,750
Lake	8,000
Larimer	11,445
Las Animas	1,200
Logan	3,740
Mesa	10,000
Moffat	6,500
Montezuma	3,780
Montrose	2,000
Ouray	5,000
Park	14,286
Pitkin	9,841
Rio Blanco	7,550
Rio Grande	6,654
Routt	11,195
San Juan	13,441
San Miguel	15,685
Summit	17,905
Teller	10,020
Weld	3,232
Total	\$293,408